

The following Listing of the Claims will replace all prior versions and all prior listings of the claims in the present application:

Listing of The Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An endoscopic accessory and control system therefor comprising:

an endoscopic accessory having an operating device mountable to the distal portion of an endoscope;

~~a control sheath extending proximally from the operating device; and~~

~~a control handle configured to be mounted to the shaft of an endoscope for movement lengthwise of the shaft;~~

~~joined to the proximal end of the control sheath and being configured to be mounted to an endoscope shaft between its proximal and distal ends.~~

~~a control element extending from the control handle to the operating device, the control handle including at least one operator control associated with the control element by which the control element may be operated to control operation of the operating device;~~

~~the control handle being constructed to enable the user to simultaneously grip and manipulate both the endoscope shaft and the control handle with a single hand.~~

2. (Currently amended) An endoscopic accessory and control system as defined in claim 1 wherein the control handle is slidably mountable for slidable movement along to an endoscope shaft.

3. (Currently amended) An endoscopic accessory and control system as defined in claim 1 wherein the control handle is removably mountable to an endoscope shaft.

4. (Currently amended) An endoscopic accessory and control system as defined in claim 1 wherein the control sheath element extends externally of the endoscope shaft when the operative element operating device and control handle are mounted to the endoscope.

5. (Currently amended) An endoscopic accessory and control system as defined in claim 3 wherein the control handle is also slidable relative to the control ~~sheath~~ element while remaining operatively connected to a ~~proximal end of~~ the control ~~sheath~~ element.

6. (Currently amended) An endoscopic accessory and control system as defined in claim 3 wherein the control handle is configured to be mounted laterally onto the endoscope shaft.

7. (Currently amended) An endoscopic accessory and control system as defined in claim 6 wherein the control handle is configured to have a plurality of downwardly extending and curved forks that define a circumferential pathway through which an endoscope shaft may be slidably passed.

8. (Currently amended) An endoscopic accessory and control system as defined in claim 1 wherein the control handle is configured to enable a user to grasp directly with one hand both the handle and be comfortably grasped together by a user's hand with a portion of an associated endoscope shaft to which the control handle is mounted.

9. (Currently amended) An endoscopic accessory and control system as defined in claim 1 wherein the control element includes a sheath and further comprising: at least two control elements members extending through the sheath for operating at least two functions of the endoscopic accessory operative operating device distal portion.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of operating an endoscope and medical device accessory comprising:

providing an endoscope having proximal and distal ends and user controls at the proximal end and an endoscopic accessory and accessory control system externally mountable to the endoscope,

using one hand to operate endoscope controls at the proximal end of the endoscope

using the other hand to operate the accessory control positioned on the endoscope shaft between the proximal and distal ends of the shaft.

11. (Original) A method operating an endoscope and medical device accessory as defined in claim 7 further comprising:

controlling the movement of the endoscope shaft with the hand that operates the accessory control.

12. (Original) A method operating an endoscope and medical device accessory as defined in claim 7 further comprising:

repositioning the accessory control along the endoscope shaft.

13. (New) An endoscopic accessory and control system as defined in claim 5 wherein the control handle has a proximal end and a distal end and further comprising:

one end of the control element extending from the proximal end of the handle and defining a proximally extending loop, the other end of the control element extending from the loop through a guideway in the handle and out of the distal end of the handle, the handle being slidable along the distally extending portion of the control member when the handle and accessory are mounted on the endoscope.

14. (New) An endoscopic accessory and control system as defined in claim 1 further comprising, in combination, an endoscope having the operating device mounted on its distal end and the control handle mounted to the shaft of the endoscope, the control element extending externally of the endoscope.